

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete and revised listing of the claims, with status identifiers in parentheses, underlines indicating insertions, and strikethroughs or double-brackets indicating deletions. This revised listing is to replace all prior versions of the claims.

1. **(Cancelled)**
2. **(Currently Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 7, wherein, when an attempt is made to operate the ~~other~~ blocked contactor, the blocking element is pressed underneath the operating region against at least one stop, such that the blocking element is supported on the at least one stop during the operating attempt.
3. **(Currently Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 7, wherein, when an attempt is made to operate ~~either~~ the blocked contactor, essentially only compression forces also occur in the guide of the ~~unoperated~~ blocked contactor.
4. **(Cancelled)**
5. **(Currently Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim ~~[[4]]~~ 7, wherein the blocking element is pivotable in a pivoting plane which runs at right angles to the side surfaces.
6. **(Currently Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim ~~[[4]]~~ 7, wherein the guides act on the blocking element in an operating direction, and wherein the operating direction runs parallel to the side surfaces.
7. **(Currently Amended)** A contactor arrangement, comprising:
 two contactors; and
 a blocking element, wherein the contactors include guides, wherein the blocking
 element is in an intermediate position, permitting operation of either contactor, when none of the

contactors are operated, wherein the blocking element is deflected from the intermediate position to a blocking position blocking operation of one of the two contactors thereby creating a blocked contactor, by a guide of an operated contactor upon one of the contactors being operated, the blocking position preventing operation of the blocked contactor, wherein the guide of the blocked contactor acts in an operating region on the blocking element upon attempting to operate the blocked contactor, wherein the guides act directly on the blocking element, wherein essentially only compression forces occur in the blocking element as a result of an attempt to operate the blocked contactor, wherein side surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking element is arranged in a blocking element holder, wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors ~~The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 4, and~~ wherein the blocking element holder is arranged at least partially recessed in the contactors.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 7, wherein the side surfaces are adjacent to one another.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A contactor arrangement, comprising:
two contactors; and
a blocking element, wherein the contactors include guides, wherein the blocking element is in an intermediate position, permitting operation of either contactor, when none of the contactors are operated, wherein the blocking element is deflected from the intermediate position to a blocking position blocking operation of one of the two contactors thereby creating a blocked contactor, by a guide of an operated contactor upon one of the contactors being operated, the blocking position preventing operation of the blocked contactor, wherein the guide of the blocked contactor acts in an operating region on the blocking element upon attempting to operate the blocked contactor, wherein the guides act directly on the blocking element, wherein

essentially only compression forces occur in the blocking element as a result of an attempt to operate the blocked contactor, wherein side surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking element is arranged in a blocking element holder, wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors ~~The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 4, and~~ wherein the contactors each include one front face and one rear face, opposite the front face, and wherein the rear faces and the blocking element holder end flush with one another.

10. **(Currently Amended)** The contactor arrangement as in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 7, wherein the blocking element is in the form of a rotating cardioid.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 10, wherein at least three load contacts can respectively be operated via the contact supports.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 2, wherein, when an attempt is made to operate it, essentially only compression forces also occur in the guide of the ~~unoperated~~ blocked contactor.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 2, wherein side surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking element is arranged in a blocking element holder, and wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 3, wherein side surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking element is arranged in a blocking element holder, and wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 5, wherein the guides act on the blocking element in an operating direction, and wherein the

operating direction runs parallel to the side surfaces.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 5, wherein the contactors each include one front face and one rear face, opposite the front face, and wherein the rear faces and the blocking element holder end flush with one another.

17. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 5, wherein the blocking element holder is arranged at least partially recessed in the contactors.

18. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 17, wherein the side surfaces are adjacent to one another.

19. **(Currently Amended)** A contactor arrangement, comprising:
two contactors including guides ~~for the contact supports~~; and
blocking means for, in an intermediate position, permitting operation of ~~[[a]]~~
either contactor when none of the contactors are operated, and for, in a blocking position
deflected from the intermediate position, blocking operation of ~~the other one of the two~~
contactors, thereby creating a blocked contactor, upon one of the contactors being operated, the
blocking position preventing operation of the ~~unoperated other~~ blocked contactor, wherein the
guide of the ~~unoperated~~ blocked contactor acts in an operating region on the blocking means
upon attempting to operate the ~~other unoperated~~ blocked contactor, wherein the guides act
directly on the blocking means, ~~and~~ wherein essentially only compression forces occur in the
blocking means as a result of an attempt to operate the ~~other~~ blocked contactor, wherein side
surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking means is arranged in a blocking
element holder, wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors, and
wherein the blocking element holder is arranged at least partially recessed in the contactors.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The contactor arrangement as claimed in claim 19, wherein the blocking means is pivotable in a pivoting plane which runs at right angles to side surfaces of the contactors.

21. **(New)** A contactor arrangement, comprising:
two contactors including guides; and
blocking means for, in an intermediate position, permitting operation of either contactor when none of the contactors are operated, and for, in a blocking position deflected from the intermediate position, blocking operation of one of the two contactors, thereby creating a blocked contactor, upon one of the contactors being operated, the blocking position preventing operation of the blocked contactor, wherein the guide of the blocked contactor acts in an operating region on the blocking means upon attempting to operate the blocked contactor, wherein the guides act directly on the blocking means, wherein essentially only compression forces occur in the blocking means as a result of an attempt to operate the blocked contactor, wherein side surfaces of the contactors face one another, wherein the blocking means is arranged in a blocking element holder, wherein the blocking element holder is arranged between the contactors, wherein the contactors each include one front face and one rear face, opposite the front face, and wherein the rear faces and the blocking element holder end flush with one another.